

REMARKS

The Examiner's Office Action of December 15, 2004 has been received and its contents reviewed. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the consideration given to the above-identified application, and for indicating claims 7-11 would be allowable if amended to overcome the rejections set forth under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

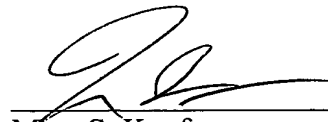
By this Amendment, claims 7, 10 and 11 have been amended, claims 1-6 and 12-37 have been canceled, and claim 38 has been added. Accordingly, claims 7-11 and 38 are pending for consideration, of which claims 7, 10 and 38 are independent. By the actions above and the remarks below, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all the pending claims.

Referring now to the detailed Office Action, claims 7-11 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. By the foregoing amendments to claims 7, 10 and 11 to correct the antecedence problems noted in the rejection, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that by the cancellation of claims 1-6 and 12-37, all art rejections set forth in the Office Action of December 15, 2004 have been rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all the pending rejections.

While the present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, should the Examiner find some issue to remain unresolved, or should any new issues arise which could be eliminated through discussions with Applicants' representative, then the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone in order that the further prosecution of this application can thereby be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,



Marc S. Kaufman
Registration No. 35,212

NIXON PEABODY LLP
Suite 900, 401 9th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004-2128
(202) 585-8000
MSK/BCO